

Canadian News

By J. H. EVANS, *Golf Editor, the Toronto Globe*

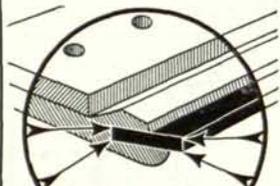
FRIENDLY criticism was offered to the greenkeepers of the Continent by Vice-President W. J. Sansom, of the National Greenkeepers' Association upon his return from the association's annual convention which was concluded in Columbus the first week in February. The criticism was followed with a challenge from the Ontario Greenkeepers' Association which, it is expected, will be taken up seriously.

Reporting to members of the Ontario association on the deliberations and activities of the convention, Mr. Sansom noted that the team selected by himself and Howard Lloyd had been adjudged the winners of a competition which was the building of a hole from tee to green.

"We took this competition seriously," reported Mr. Sansom. "Learning of it, Mr. Lloyd and myself selected a team several months before the convention and prepared the essential plans from which we were to work. When we went to the convention we found that the other teams which were to have taken part in the competition had no plans from which they might work and had apparently not taken the competition as seriously as we had.

"It wasn't a sporting proposition," he continued. "However, we went to work and we were highly commended for the green which we built. We must over-

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look the lack of competition in view of the decision of those who studied our work. We will go a step farther. We will perpetuate the competition through the presentation of a trophy for competition at the next convention in New York. We will do our utmost to defend our walkover at Columbus.

"The competition is an unusual one. It should be a source of pride, particularly in view of the continued efforts of greenkeepers to secure recognition, to any group of greenkeepers to be adjudged the finest architects among greenkeepers of the Continent. I hope our American friends join us in providing a real competition for the next show."

Mr. Sansom recommended the hoseless watering system, although probably the most expensive to install, to members of the Ontario association. He stated that those course superintendents who had been able to install it had spoken highly of it and believed it to be the only system which gave satisfaction with the minimum of upkeep once it was installed. The labor-saving feature appealed to Mr. Sansom who pointed out that it might be operated with one man and that there was no hose to cart around or replace.

"Another piece of machinery attracted a great deal of attention," he said. "There were many machines shown, but the machine which I personally believe to be most suitable for greenkeepers is the one which uses a compound of emery powder and oil. The machine is run by a small motor or a gasoline engine costing probably \$100 without the motor.

"Obviously the manufacturer did not want the greenkeeper kept away from the show," he said. "As a consequence, our committee was compelled to conduct its educational program in the same building. The first day it was held in the basement in a room by no means suitable from the point of view of the speaker and seating accommodation. The second day it was held in another portion of the building. There was plenty of seating accommodation, but the acoustics were poor. On the third day it was held in the hotel, but it seemed to be impossible to hear the speakers with comfort.

"We must always pay full attention to the educational features of our convention. Outstanding speakers present their views to us. I trust the association will consider this when it is preparing for the 1932 convention; in fact I am sure it will. I offer these criticisms because after all we must continually strive toward a bigger and a better organization, and because only through criticism can we reach our objective."

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